

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): Seed of hybrid maize variety ~~Hybrid maize seed~~ designated 33T17, representative seed of said ~~hybrid 33T17~~ variety having been deposited under ATCC ~~accession~~ Accession number PTA-4274.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): A maize plant, or a part thereof, produced by growing the seed of claim 1.

Claim 3 (Original): Pollen of the plant of claim 2.

Claim 4 (Original): An ovule of the plant of claim 2.

Claims 5-42 (Canceled)

Claim 43 (Previously presented): A tissue culture of regenerable cells produced from the plant of claim 2.

Claim 44 (Previously presented): Protoplasts produced from the tissue culture of claim 43.

Claim 45 (Previously presented): The tissue culture of claim 43, wherein cells of the tissue culture are from a tissue selected from the group consisting of leaf, pollen, embryo, root, root tip, anther, silk, flower, kernel, ear, cob, husk and stalk.

Claim 46 (Previously presented): A maize plant regenerated from the tissue culture of claim 43, said plant having all the morphological and physiological characteristics of hybrid maize plant 33T17, representative seed of said plant having been deposited under ATCC Accession No. PTA-4274.

Claim 47 (Previously presented): A method for producing an F1 hybrid maize seed, comprising crossing the plant of claim 2 with a different maize plant and harvesting the resultant F1 hybrid maize seed.

Claims 48-62 (Canceled)

Claim 63 (Previously presented): A maize plant, or part thereof, having all the physiological and morphological characteristics of the hybrid maize plant 33T17, representative seed of said plant having been deposited under ATCC Accession No. PTA-4274.

Claim 64 (Currently amended): A method of introducing a desired trait into a hybrid maize ~~line~~ variety 33T17 comprising:

(a) crossing at least one of inbred maize parent plants GE515488 and GE534625, representative samples of which have been deposited under ATCC Accession Nos. as PTA-1304 and PTA-4289 respectively, with another maize line that comprises a desired trait, to produce F1 progeny plants, wherein the desired trait is selected from the group consisting of male sterility, herbicide resistance, insect resistance, disease resistance and waxy starch;

(b) selecting said F1 progeny plants that have the desired trait to produce selected F1 progeny plants;

(c) backcrossing the selected progeny plants with said inbred maize parent plant to produce backcross progeny plants;

(d) selecting for backcross progeny plants that have the desired trait and morphological and physiological characteristics of said inbred maize parent plant;

(e) repeating the steps (c) and (d) ~~of backcrossing to said inbred maize parent plant~~ three or more times in succession to produce selected fourth or higher backcross progeny plants;

(f) crossing said fourth or higher backcross progeny plant with the other inbred maize parent plant to generate a hybrid maize ~~line~~ variety 33T17 with the desired trait and all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of hybrid maize ~~line~~ variety

33T17 listed in Table 1 as determined at the 5% significance level when grown in the same environmental conditions.

Claim 65 (Currently amended): A plant produced by the method of claim 64, wherein the plant has the desired trait and all of the physiological and morphological characteristics of hybrid maize ~~line~~ variety 33T17 listed in Table 1 as determined at the 5% significance level when grown in the same environmental conditions.

Claim 66 (Previously presented): The plant of claim 65 wherein the desired trait is herbicide resistance and the resistance is conferred to an herbicide selected from the group consisting of: imidazolinone, sulfonylurea, glyphosate, glufosinate, L-phosphinothricin, triazine and benzonitrile.

Claim 67 (Previously presented): The plant of claim 65 wherein the desired trait is insect resistance and the insect resistance is conferred by a transgene encoding a *Bacillus thuringiensis* endotoxin.

Claim 68 (Previously presented): The plant of claim 65 wherein the desired trait is male sterility and the trait is conferred by a cytoplasmic nucleic acid molecule that confers male sterility.

Claim 69 (Currently amended): A method of modifying fatty acid metabolism, phytic acid metabolism or carbohydrate metabolism in a hybrid maize ~~line~~ variety 33T17 comprising:

(a) crossing at least one of inbred maize parent plants GE515488 and GE534625, representative samples of which have been deposited under ATCC Accession Nos. as PTA-1304 and PTA-4289 respectively, with another maize line that comprises a nucleic acid molecule encoding an enzyme selected from the group consisting of phytase, stearyl-ACP desaturase, fructosyltransferase, levansucrase, alpha-amylase, invertase and starch branching enzyme;

(b) selecting said F1 progeny plants that have said nucleic acid molecule to produce selected F1 progeny plants;

(c) backcrossing the selected progeny plants with said inbred maize parent plant to produce backcross progeny plants;

(d) selecting for backcross progeny plants that have said nucleic acid molecule and morphological and physiological characteristics of said inbred maize parent plant;

(e) repeating the steps (c) and (d) of backcrossing to said inbred maize parent plant three or more times in succession to produce selected fourth or higher backcross progeny plants;

(f) crossing said fourth or higher backcross progeny plant with the other inbred maize parent plant to generate a hybrid maize line variety 33T17 that comprises said nucleic acid molecule and has all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of hybrid maize line variety 33T17 listed in Table 1 as determined at the 5% significance level when grown in the same environmental conditions.

Claim 70 (Currently amended): A plant produced by the method of claim 69, wherein the plant comprises the nucleic acid molecule and has all of the physiological and morphological characteristics of hybrid maize line variety 33T17 listed in Table 1 as determined at the 5% significance level when grown in the same environmental conditions.

Claim 71 (Previously presented): A method for producing a maize seed, comprising crossing the plant of claim 2 with itself or a different maize plant and harvesting the resultant maize seed.